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The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" The subjects that were discussed are, (1) the appointment of honorary medical officers, (2) equipment of libraries with books and periodicals, (3) consideration of pay and prospects of rural medical practitioners, (4) Government medical staff, (5) Local Fund medical staff, (6) clerks, compounders, menials, and so on. These are some of the subjects in respect of which the Surgeon-General wished to know the opinion of the various medical officers."

Mr. DANIEL THOMAS :—" Was there not a similar conference held last year and may I know whether they submitted any report? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" I think so, Sir, we are awaiting the report."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether in the previous conferences the same subjects were not discussed? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" The previous conferences were held by some years ago. The Government felt that it would be better if they elicited the opinion of the medical officers on these subjects again."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether in those conferences they did not discuss the pay and prospects of the medical cadre? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" I don't know. The Government do not want that to be discussed."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" It may not be wanted. But may I know whether that subject was not discussed in previous conferences? "

Alleged detention of Mr. K. E. Shivaraman in the Mental Hospital at Madras.

* 275 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government have issued instructions, written or otherwise, to Superintendents of Mental Hospitals to detain patients who are politically inclined as long as possible;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that one K. E. Shivaraman is detained in the Madras Mental Hospital;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that when some persons applied for his discharge, they were told that he should avoid political occupation and that if any persons would give undertaking to that effect he would be discharged;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that only because none would give the undertaking he is still detained in the hospital; and

(*e*) what action the Government propose to take in the matter?

A.—(*a*) No.
(*b*) Yes.
(*c*) No.
(*d*) No.

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(e) The patient is reported to have shown some improvement. If his improvement continues and if some responsible person is willing to take care of him he will be placed before the Visiting Committee of the hospital for discharge.

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti :—" With reference to the answer given to this question, may I know whether the person referred to who has been detained in the mental hospital is a major or a minor? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu :—" I have no information on the point. I want notice."

Orders relating to the eligibility of medical officers to private practice.

* 276 *Q.*—Mr. V. T. Arasu : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to lay on the table of the House copies of all the orders passed by either the Government or the Surgeon-General permitting and regulating the privilege of private practice that is now enjoyed by the officers in the Medical Department?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the rules regulating private practice of medical officers contained in paragraphs 279 to 288 of the Madras Civil Medical Code which is available in the library for reference. Government consider it unnecessary to place on the table several Government orders on which the above rules are based.

Alleged running of a nursing home by the Second Surgeon of the Madras General Hospital.

* 277 *Q.*—Mr. V. T. Arasu : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Second Surgeon of the Madras General Hospital is running a regular nursing home in 'Binfield' house in Poonamallee High Road; and

(b) if so, the nature of the disciplinary action that the hon. the Minister proposes to take against that Surgeon?

A.—(a) Yes. He has been permitted by the Surgeon-General to maintain a nursing home for his own private patients.

(b) The Government do not propose to take any disciplinary action.

Mr. V. T. Arasu :—" I shall like to know from the hon. the Chief Minister under what section of the Madras Medical Code the second Surgeon of the Madras General Hospital was allowed to run a nursing home? ".

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu :—" He was given permission in 1928 by the then Surgeon-General and the present Surgeon-General has agreed with the action of his predecessor."